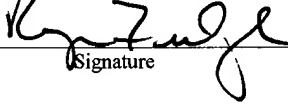




PATENT  
64552.0166

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this correspondence will be deposited as first-class mail with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 3, 1999.

  
Signature

5-3-99  
Date

#7 Supple  
J.D.J.  
E.H. Harris  
5/6/99

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richardson, et al.

Serial No.: 08/877,738

Filed: June 17, 1997

Invention: Drilling Method and Apparatus

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Group No.: 3672

Examiner: Schoeppel, Roger

### TRANSMITTAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The applicants submits herewith patents, publications, or other information, of which they are aware and that they believe may be material to the examination of the application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this supplemental information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this supplemental information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 accompany this supplemental information disclosure statement.

The supplemental information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the mailing date of a first office action on the merits. No fee is required. If a fee is required for the submission of this information disclosure statement, please charge deposit account no. 02-0383.

Respectfully submitted,



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Roger Fulghum  
Registration No. 39,678

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Baker & Botts Docket Number: 64552.0166  
Date: May 3, 1999